

CLAIMS

1. An editing system comprising:

a timeline interface having at least one interactive track for interactive content and at least one track for time-based media, wherein interactive content may be associated

5 with a point in time on the at least one track for interactive content; and

means for allowing a user to place interactive content on the at least one interactive track according to a selection of whether the interactive content is associated with either a point in time with a locator object or a duration with a source clip object on the at least one interactive track.

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2. The editing system of claim 1, further comprising:

a bin for storing interactive content;

means for importing interactive content into the bin such that interactive content in the bin is associated with a unique reference;

15 wherein the means for allowing a user to place interactive content the at least one interactive track accesses the interactive content from the bin; and

means for updating information about the interactive content in the bin using the unique reference.

20 3. The editing system of claim 2, wherein the interactive content is a trigger element and the unique reference includes a file name for a trigger file including a description of the trigger element and a unique identifier of the trigger element.

4. The editing system of claim 2, wherein the interactive content is a document and the
25 unique reference includes a file name for the document.

5. The editing system of claim 1, further comprising:

a bin for storing interactive content;

30 means for importing interactive content into the bin such that information about the interactive content is stored in the bin;

wherein the means for allowing a user to place interactive content the at least one interactive track stores information about the interactive content as an attribute of the object used for the interactive content.

- 5 6. The editing system of claim 1, wherein interactive content includes display information indicating information to be displayed with the video and a specification of size and position of the video, and the editing system further comprising:

means for playing back the program specified by the timeline interface including:

means for accessing the specification of the size and position of the video

- 10 for the interactive content corresponding to a point in time in the program; and

means for displaying the video and the display information of the interactive content according to the specification and the point in time in the program.

- 15 7. An editing system comprising:

a timeline interface for specifying a program having at least one interactive track for interactive content and at least one track for time-based media, wherein interactive content may be associated with a point in time on the at least one interactive track;

a bin for storing interactive content;

- 20 means for importing interactive content into the bin such that interactive content in the bin is associated with a unique reference;

means for allowing a user to place interactive content selected from the bin on the at least one interactive track; and

- 25 means for updating information about the interactive content in the bin using the unique reference.

8. The editing system of claim 7, wherein the interactive content is a trigger element and the unique reference includes a file name for a trigger file including a description of the trigger element and a unique identifier of the trigger element.

9. The editing system of claim 7, wherein the interactive content is a document and the unique reference includes a file name for the document.

10. An editing system comprising:

5 a timeline interface for specifying a program having at least one interactive track for interactive content and at least one track for video, wherein interactive content may be associated with a point in time on the at least one interactive track;

means for allowing a user to place interactive content on the at least one interactive track, wherein interactive content includes display information indicating
10 information to be displayed with the video and a specification of size and position of the video; and

means for playing back the program specified by the timeline interface including:

means for accessing the specification of the size and position of the video for the interactive content corresponding to a point in time in the program; and

15 means for displaying the video and the display information of the interactive content according to the specification and the point in time in the program.

11. The editing system of claim 10, further comprising:

20 means for allowing a user to select interactive content;

means for launching an authoring tool corresponding to the selected interactive content, and for causing the authoring tool to access and open for editing the selected interactive content.

25 12. The editing system of claim 1, further comprising:

means for allowing the user to place time-based media on a track using one of a source clip object and a locator object; and

means for allowing the user to perform editing operations that affect source clip objects and locator objects, whereby interactive content and time-based media are edited
30 in the same manner to maintain synchronization.